MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 November 1981

Israel

Begin, Shamir Statements -- Jerusalem radio broadcast a statement issued to the press on 8 November on behalf of Prime Minister Menahem Begin in which the Israeli leader reacted to recent statements by British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington regarding EC participation in the Sinai multinational force by specifying Israel's two conditions for the participation of any country in the force. First, the statement said, the Sinai force will not supervise the Israeli withdrawal. The second condition, which the statement described as "an ultimate condition" for participation in the Sinai force, stipulated that participants should not refer to the Venice declaration and that the Camp David and related agreements are the sole basis for the establishment of the multinational force.

On the same day, the radio reported that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir issued a warning that U.S. and European support for Saudi Arabia might lead Israel to reassess its positions. Israel has reached and even passed the limits of whatever compromises it can make, Shamir asserted. According to the radio, Shamir's remarks are a "veiled threat" that Israel could become more intransigent later on in the autonomy negotiations.

Criticism of Saudi Arabia -- Jerusalem radio reported on 6 November that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon announced that Israel regards Saudi Arabia as a "confrontation state" in light of the supply of sophisticated U.S. arms to it. The radio also alleged that Saudi Arabia is now supplying the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon with "very great quantities of weapons it is receiving from the United States."

West Bank Unrest -- Jerusalem radio carried reports on 6-9 November indicating disturbances in several West Bank towns, including Bethlehem, Ramallah, 'Anabta, Hebron, Al-Birah, Nabulus and east Jerusalem, a number of them protesting last week's closure of Bi'r Zayt College by Israeli authorities. Military Government forces dispersed a Ramallah political rally on 7 November.

Gulf

A Kuwaiti Foreign Affairs Ministry official was reported by KUNA as having held four separate meetings on 8 November with the ambassadors of the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands and Italy in which he told them that their countries' participation in the multinational Sinai peacekeeping force would negatively affect Arab-European relations in general.

PLO

In an interview with the UAE daily AL-KHALIJ reported by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar said the official PLO position on Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan has not yet been formulated. He added that the PLO welcome for the plan does not necessarily signify final approval by the Executive Committee.

Egypt

Mubarak on Domestic, Foreign Policies -- In a speech delivered before a joint session of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council on 8 November and broadcast live by Cairo radio, President Husni Mubarak stressed that the government's primary aim during the "phase of peace" is to put the economy on a firm footing through projects that produce the basic items needed by working people, who are the majority of the population, rather than luxury goods for the few who can afford them. Affordable housing, foodstuffs, clothing, medicine and furniture were specified as the key items. Mubarak stated

that the ultimate goal is social justice, which is a basic condition for societal peace and stability. With regard to political freedoms, the president said the real strength of democracy is the right of every citizen to express his opinion. He acknowledged the opposition's ability to contribute to the nation's success through its presentation of thoughtful opinions and criticisms free of innuendo and defamation. Mubarak further indicated that Egypt is working for a just and comprehensive peace that will embrace the Mideast region and enable its countries to deal with the challenges of the age: Internal development, prosperity, stability and "catching up" with technological advances. After reasserting Egyptian nonalignment and neutrality, President Mubarak affirmed that while Egypt is eager to deal with the big powers, it insists on noninterference in its affairs and respect for its sovereignty, adding that Egypt is an "Arab African state, not Eastern or Western" and saying that Egypt will not be party to "the strategy of this or that side."

Earlier, in an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH, the text of which was transmitted by MENA, President Mubarak stated that political stability and economic prosperity are interdependent and that during the upcoming period the government will emphasize economic development. On foreign policy, Mubarak said: "I hope Prince Fahd's initiative will come to pass. I hope it does! However, the Camp David agreement is the first signed Israeli commitment. Nevertheless, we hope that the parties to the conflict will accept the contents" of the Fahd plan.

Denial on 'Air Umbrella' -- An official spokesman was cited by MENA as denying an 8 November Washington POST report of the United States having assured Egypt of an "air umbrella" against attack by the Soviet Union, if Egypt were to attack Libya.

Abu Ghazalah on Soviet Weaponry -- In an 8 November interview with AS-SIYASAH and the ARAB TIMES reported by KUNA, Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah answered a question about the possibility of the Soviet Union being a future source of arms for Egypt by saying "everything is possible" provided no unacceptable conditions are attached to the weapons' delivery.

Agreement on French Planes -- Citing the 9 November MAY, MENA reported that before the end of November an agreement is to be signed with France on the delivery of 40 Mirage-2000 planes. These planes, affirmed MENA, "are no less efficient than" F-16's.

Arrest of Communists -- MENA cited the 9 November MAY as saying that 85 members of the Egyptian Communist Party and the Egyptian Workers' Communist Party were arrested on 4 and 5 November by security forces. According to the paper, the two groups recently began to increase their antigovernment activities in the belief that the authorities were occupied with eliminating the remnants of "the terrorist organization."

'Terrorist' Overseas Links -- The 7 November issue of AL-AHRAM was reported by MENA as indicating that investigations into "the terrorist organization" have revealed a "close link" between it and like-minded groups in other countries, which contributed financially to the Egyptian group's operations. An Interior Ministry official's statement quoted by AL-AHRAM said that "about 99 percent" of the terrorist group's members have already been arrested.

Details on Sayyid Mar'i -- The London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT for 5 November mentioned that among a number of decisions by President Mubarak on 4 November was one to abolish the body of presidential advisers headed by Sayyid Mar'i. MENA reported on 5 November that Mar'i's resignation as presidential assistant had been accepted by Mubarak on 31 October.

Libya

A Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio commentary of 6 November called the U.S. military maneuvers in Egypt a "direct invasion" of the Arab homeland and pointed out how Arab officers and men in the past have shot down U.S. aircraft and "executed" U.S. personnel participating with them in military maneuvers, with particular reference being made to U.S.-Egyptian maneuvers during President Anwar as-Sadat's lifetime. Reminding its listeners that the true enemies of the Arab world are imperialism and Zionism, the radio described participation in the maneuvers by Arab soldiers "disgraceful" but concluded confidently that history will be able to record how those selected to participate "settled the account with the invading U.S. forces."

Lebanon

Arab Followup Committee -- In remarks broadcast by Beirut radio on 7 November, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi revealed that the Arab Followup Committee had decided to establish a supervisory authority for all Lebanese coastal areas. The committee also adopted several security measures concerning reopening corridors between east and west Beirut that have been presented to all the Lebanese parties, he added. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan told a press conference the following day that the supervisory authority's task will be to bar the entry of arms to the country and to "all the sides present in Lebanon." In his remarks, broadcast by Beirut radio, Al-Wazzan also noted that the Followup Committee plans to reopen the Sodeco road between the two halves of the capital by securing the withdrawal of gunmen from both sides. The Arab Deterrent Force would then control security in the western sector while Lebanese security forces would be deployed in east Beirut between Sodeco and the port. Al-Wazzan noted that the next Followup Committee meeting will be on 18 January.

Voice of Lebanon radio reported on 8 November that former President Camille Sham'un rejected the Followup Committee's resolution on supervision, describing its talk about national dialogue and accord as "prevarication and procrastination" because there are "no differences" among the Lebanese. He demanded the withdrawal of Syrian troops from the center of the capital, the contact lines and the suburbs of Beirut and Zahlah as a first step toward the Lebanese Front's acceptance of coastal supervision, adding that the National Movement, the Palestinians and the communists are receiving arms from and through Syria. Earlier, the radio reported that Followup Committee members Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and his Kuwaiti counterpart, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, had contacted Lebanese Front armed forces Commander Bashir al-Jumayyil. The radio said Al-Jumayyil would announce his command's stance toward the committee recommendations in a speech in Juniyah later on 8 November.

Haddad Resignation Withdrawal -- In an 8 November speech broadcast live by the Voice of Hope radio, Maj Sa'd Haddad withdrew his resignation as commander of "Free Lebanon," the Christian border enclave in the south. Haddad said he had submitted his resignation on 6 November for "internal reasons" that have now been solved. Stressing the need for social and civil progress in the border strip, he announced the abolition and freezing of all the responsibilities of military officials in the eastern sector of the enclave. He also expressed the hope that "Free Lebanon" will expand and become a "model area," surpassing the Scandinavian countries and Switzerland. In a radio interview the previous day, Haddad indicated that he would rescind his resignation if a "small group of people who violate laws" could be dealt with. Haddad's interviewer openly asked him to withdraw his resignation and other radio reports noted that a crowd of some 3,000 residents gathered in Marj 'Uyun urging him to return and that local village representatives issued a statement to the same effect. The radio also reported that when he initially announced his resignation in a radio broadcast, Haddad designated Sharbat Barakat as his successor.

UK Ambassador on Camp David -- Beirut radio reported on 8 November that British Ambassador David Roberts said in an interview with MONDAY MORNING that the Camp David process is practically finished. Asserting that the way forward is to combine the European and Saudi Mideast peace proposals, he said he does not consider EC participation in the Sinai multinational force to be a form of support for the Camp David accords.

Iran

Report on Shari'atmadari Denied -- According to AFP, the Tehran office of Grand Ayatollah Kazem Shari'atmadari denied on 8 November a SUNDAY TIMES report of the same date that the senior clergyman applied last week for a passport in order to leave Iran. The SUNDAY TIMES report said Shari'atmadari desired to leave Iran as a protest over the wave of executions and arrests currently sweeping Iran.

Security Situation -- Tehran radio said that on the afternoon of 6 November a clash occurred in Bukan between Kurdish rebels and government security forces, in which the rebels opened fire on and "slaughtered" men, women and children in inns, streets, public baths, bakeries and other public places. "Tens" of the rebels were killed or wounded by government forces, which lost seven of their own men. The radio later reported that the town was under government control.

KDP-Opposition Cooperation -- The clandestine Voice of Iranian Kordestan radio carried a statement issued on 6 November by the Political Bureau of the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) reporting the party's recognition of the opposition's National Council, headed by Mojahedin-e Khalq leader Mas'ud Rajavi. The radio also broadcast an exchange of letters between Rajavi and KDP Secretary General Abdorrahman Qasemlu in which the latter assented to an appeal by Rajavi that all Kurdish leaders rally round the opposition council's program.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iranian Armed Forces communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported the downing of four Iraqi fighters in the Ahvaz region on 7 November by Iranian planes. INA subsequently carried an Iraqi military spokesman's denial of the communique's claim, dismissing it as another in a series of lies. The following day, PARS indicated that an Iraqi MiG had been shot down over Abadan when it and an accompanying plane were intercepted by an Iranian fighter.

Pakistan

AFP reported that a clash broke out in Karachi on 8 November between Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims when a Shi'ite procession commemorating the martyrdom of Imam Husayn was stoned by Sunni onlookers.

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LEADERS SEND ANNIVERSARY CABLES TO SOVIET LEADERS

Cables to Brezhnev, Tikhonov

LD081840 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Message communicated to Moscow by DRA leaders to the leaders of the USSR on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution]

[Text] Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Comrade N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Moscow: With great pleasure, on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, we present to you the most warm and sincere congratulations on our behalf and on behalf of the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, the DRA Government and all people of Afghanistan to you, dear comrades, and through you to the Leninist Central Committee of the CPSU and the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Government and the brother Soviet people.

The Great October Socialist Revolution became the symbol and mark of a new era in the history of mankind and opened the path toward reaching the aspirations of social justice. The progressive people of the world consider the achievements and victories of the Soviet people and the works and difficult plans of the Soviets as a live indicator of the continuation of the revolutionary aspirations for which the proletariat and Russian toilers, led by the Leninist party, raised in 1917 for a decisive struggle against oppression, reaction and exploitation.

The Leninist foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Government toward safeguarding and consolidating peace, preventing the arms race and maintaining the security of nations reflect and are manifest of the intentions and interests of the Soviet people and the aspirations of the toilers of all [word indistinct] continents.

The toiling people of the homeland of Lenin and October always side with those who defend freedom and social progress. We in Afghanistan forever feel the comradely aid and attention of the great USSR in the struggle for the independence and prosperity of our people. The people of Afghanistan will always be profoundly grateful for the disinterested, fraternal and internationalist aid that the Soviet Union has extended and extends to free Afghanistan, covering a period of more than 60 years.

We, in particular, wish to point out that after the victory of the Sawr Revolution, particularly after its new development stage, the friendly relations, good neighborliness, close understanding and fruitful cooperation between our two peoples and countries have become stronger and truly fraternal. We are confident that these sincere and comradely relations and our all-round cooperation, in the interest of the toiling people of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, and in the interest of the consolidation of peace and security in the world and for the progress of mankind, will develop further and bear more fruit.

Dear Comrades L.I. Brezhnev and N.A. Tikhonov: We once again express our sincere and best comradely wishes for still further glories and glorious victories of the Soviet heroic people and for your health and prosperity.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council; Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers

Dost Greets Gromyko

LD082330 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA minister of foreign affairs, has sent a congratulatory telegram to A. Gromyko, USSR minister of foriegn affairs, on the occasion of the 64th Great October Socialist Revolution anniversary.

The telegram expresses confidence that the close, fraternal relations and fruitful, all-round cooperation between the DRA and the USSR after the victory of the Sawr Revolution, and in particular in its new development stage, have developed profoundly and consistently and will strengthen further in the interests of the toiling peoples of our two countries and of the world and for maintaining and securing peace in Asia and throughout the world.

BAKHTAR COMMENTATOR ON AFGHAN-SOVIET COOPERATION

LD090720 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 9 Nov 81

[By BAKHTAR political observer]

[Text] Kabul, 8 Nov (BAKHTAR) -- The people of the Soviet Union and all progressive people of the world celebrate these days the 64th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

The Great October Revolution was not only the beginning of the revolution in Russia. It also opened new horizons before the oppressed people of the world who are fighting for the right to better life.

The Soviet Union upholds the struggle of these peoples and defends the national liberation movements against mischievous forces who are united with imperialism, hegemonism, Zionism, apartheid and all forms of the reaction of the region.

The fraternal relations between the people of the Soviet Union and the people of Afghanistan were founded in [words indistinct] with regaining of the independence by Afghanistan.

Our country was the first to officially recognize the Soviet Russia and we gratefully recall that in those very difficult days our great northern neighbour did not spare any kind of help to us in our battle with the British invaders.

Since then the cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union has been developing. It has further expanded and raised to the level of brotherly relations, especially after the April Revolution and its new and evolutionary phase in particular.

The friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the DRA which is based on the lasting principles of equal and mutual interests, is developing fruitfully and dynamically.

One hundred sixty-seven projects have been or are being built in our country as a result of economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. Out of these 76 are fully in operation and account for [words indistinct] percent of the industrial product of the state sector and cover the important fields of energy, transports, agriculture, housing, production of the chemical fertilizer, cottage industry and food in the national economy.

The Soviet engineers, shoulder to shoulder with Afghan engineers, work all over the country and share their experiences with the Afghan engineers.

The DRA and the USSR believe that the dangerous course of international events, which emanates from the aggressive policy of imperialism led by the U.S. imperialism, must be prevented.

Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, answering a question raised by DER SPIEGEL magazine of the FRG said that the accusations and false propaganda of the West made to convince the public opinion of the world as if the USSR allegedly is preparing for a nuclear offensive on the West is completely baseless and wrong.

The DRA supports the constructive initiatives of the USSR for securing detente, lessening the tensions in different parts of the world including the region where we live in, in order to defend the peace and stability.

It is enough just to have a look on the astonishing changes that took place between the imperialist and socialist forces.

The victory, everywhere, whether it is in the field of struggles or the efforts made for the lasting peace for the coming generations, belongs to the forces of peace, socialism and social progress.

KARMAL ADDRESSES GRADUATES OF MILITARY INSTITUTES

LD090706 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0505 GMT 9 Nov 81

[Text] Kabul, 8 Nov (BAKHTAR)--Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC [Central Committee] and president of the Revolutionary Council, distributed the diplomas, medals and prizes to the distinguished graduates of the educational institutions of the armed forces today, at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council.

Babrak Karmal congratulated the young graduates of the military institutes on the successful completion of the military studies and hoped them greater successes.

In a detailed speech Babrak Karmal once again drew the attention of the militant and selfless youth of the armed forces to their momentous task and said:

"You who are to take your places in an historically sensitive moment in the ranks of the most active and loyal defenders of the prideful April Revolution, sovereignty and territorial integrity, must know that the duty of the armed struggle against the enemies of revolution, complete annihilation of the lands of the counterrevolutionary elements and the creation of peaceful conditions for creative work of the people of Afghanistan are more important than everything else.

It is clear as to how great and honourable today is the duty of our revolutionary army and how responsible obligations are entrusted to you heroic youths.

Commending the heroic struggles of the officers, soldiers and personnel of the armed forces in eliminating the enemies of revolution and the enemies of the working people of Afghanistan, Babrak Karmal added: I want to point out that in the armed struggle of our people against the enemies of revolution the decisive role is assigned to our heroic armed forces, which till today have been achieving more and more successes.

Addressing the militant youth of the armed forces, Babrak Karmal said: You who enter today the armed forces after the completion of your training and practical work must remember that wherever you work and under any conditions that you may be placed in, you belong to the ranks of the army of new revolutionary officers whose only aim is to defend the interests of the toiling people.

Always remember that victory in the struggle against the enemies is possible when you have a firm determination, high personal discipline, obedience and bravery, seriousness and [words indistinct] and boundless heroism in battle.

Babrak Karmal at the end thanked the lecturers, and teachers of the military educational institutions complimenting them for their noble and prideful work in training the young students of the armed forces and expressed confidence that the graduates of the military education institutions enjoy the trust and confidence of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the heroic people of Afghanistan and must occupy a worthy place in the ranks of the armed forces and make an important contribution to enhancing the combat readiness of the armed forces in the early annihilation of the counterrevolutionaries.

RAFSANJANI, MA'ADIKHAH SPEAK ON DOMESTIC ISSUES

LD061456 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Excerpts] During today's Friday prayers at Tehran University, Mr Ma'adikhah, the minister of national guidance, gave a presermon speech. He made some remarks about the fruitful ideology generated from the bloody Karbala' revolution. While giving some examples of good characteristics of the lord of the martyrs Hoseyn ibn 'Ali -- may peace be upon him -- and his unique comrades, the minister said: Today, the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the government, the president and all the revolutionary establishments must try in full coordination to materialize the imam's words by implementing the rule of law, as this Islamic Republic deserves, and putting it in view of our friends and enemies.

The speaker praised the services of Tehran's public prosecutor and said: If it was not for the decisiveness of his office, counterrevolutionaries would have reached many of their goals. He added: It is meaningless to show mercy to those who set fire to the country's resources and burn scholars and ulema of Islam alive.

The Iranian minister of national guidance, while condemning actions by Amnesty International, reiterated: From last year's Tasu'a [ninth day of Muharram, before Imam Hoseyn's death] until now, the counterrevolution burned our ulema alive; but Amnesty International said nothing. In that country, the members of the hypocrite organization burned scholars and children and set fire to innocent people in buses, but once again Amnesty International and other similar organizations kept quiet.

The speaker continued: In safeguarding the Islamic Republic there can be no clemency, and in defending the Islamic Republic we deny nothing. This Islamic Republic is the flag of Islamic revolution in the world today. For the same reason, it is valuable to us and we feel dutybound to safeguard this flag.

Afterwards, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the temporary Friday imam of Tehran, read the Friday sermons. In the first sermon, he spoke in detail about the logic behind the bloody revolution of Karbala'.

The temporary Friday imam of Tehran continued the sermon by commenting on recent counter-revolutionary conspiracies. Addressing the youths who were deceived by the hypocrites' minigroup, he said: Return to the bosom of Islam and do not ruin and waste yourselves.

In the second sermon of the Friday prayers, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the current issues and problems of the country and the region and said: Fortunately, we were able to form a abinet last week despite the enemy's obstacles and propaganda; we hope that, through the cooperation of the people and the president, this Cabinet will be able to solve our problems. This success brought happiness to our people who are engaged in a war and are confronting internal terrorism and other enemy conspiracies. Thank God, during the past few weeks we witnessed security inside the Country; and through hard work and self-sacrifices by the Guard Corps, committee forces, mobilization and decisiveness of the revolution prosecutor's office and shari'a judges, we succeeded in rapidly breaking the wave of terrorist conspiracies.

The very important issue last week was the response shown by combative popular forces to the request made by the corps and mobilization centers. The wave of enthusiasm shown by our society in response to this invitation was so great and people welcomed it so much that dispatch centers are under pressure to send youth to the battlefronts.

The temporary Friday imam of Tehran added: We feel that because of popular backing, we will soon witness great victories on the battlefronts.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in another part of the Friday prayers second sermon, made the following remarks:

[Begin recording] I bring you the good news that the Supreme Economic Council has started its planning. It is going to prepare long-term plans for production, distribution, agriculture, industry and consumption in order to clarify our economic structure and in order to determine the limit of activities of the private sector and personal investments, in order to clarify the duties of the cooperative and government sector. Then the people will know where they stand and they will be able to plan for their future. This will enable them to invest their savings for reconstruction of the country; and they will be able to enjoy the way provided for them by the Islamic revolution.

I would like to repeat the good tidings that our prime minister mentioned during his speech 1 or 2 days ago. Out of all the reports and discussions, it is understood that our specialist and technocrat forces gradually found out that the only way to serve the country is through the Islamic revolution and cooperation with the iman's line. From this side, I would like to give them the good news that the responsible authorities of the country have also come to the conclusion that without the presence of you, the specialist forces and manpower -- who are sincerely ready to serve this country, this revolution and this people -- work would not continue. Therefore, I too, from the tribune of Friday prayers, on Iman Hoseyn's Tasu'a, announce that those in charge of the government and the budget planners must prepare a kind of plan which would throw light on their future. The private sector should know where it is working and where it is allowed to work.

I inform you, the educated, trained and skilled manpower that we hope through a healthy atmosphere, which will be created, and by uprooting terrorism and internal division from this country, and by keeping the aggressive hands of Iraq and the United States from this country, the arena of activity will be open to you, me and all of us in every field of economy, administration and technology. [end recording]

Rafsanjani Assails Saudis

GF061106 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0824 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Friday Arabic sermon delivered by "temporary Tehran Friday Imam" and Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani at Tehran University -- live]

[Excerpts] Peace be upon our glorious Muslim nation. During the past week the Muslim people of Iran celebrated the anniversary of their struggle and the struggle of their leaders against imperialists and agents. They celebrated the anniversary of the imam's banishment following his first uprising against the shah and his protest over granting diplomatic immunity to Americans. Huge demonstrations were held in all streets and towns in honor of the student martyrs who shed their blood during the defunct shah's regime, out of respect for student day, in memory of the storming of the U.S. spy den by the Muslim students following the imam's line and to emphasize the revolution's continued steadfastness against imperialism and Zionism.

At the same time the Muslim Iranian people are denouncing imperialist crimes, the surrogates of imperialism in Iraq are committing new aggression against Muslim and revolutionary Iran. The enemy bombarded Ahvaz and destroyed a hospital, contrary to all international customs. Iraqi planes dropped cluster bombs on Ahvaz. Moreover, an Iraqi plane strafed a village in the west of our Islamic homeland. The homes of our Iranian Arab brothers in Ahvaz were once again bombarded with rockets. Iraq is perpetrating these crimes to cover up its shaky information apparatus and raise the collapsing morale of its army and to hide the great losses it sustained when our valiant forces liberated Abadan.

Iraq's defeat in this war is inevitable, however much the assistance of agents to it is increased. Our forces, heroes and all our people are determined to continue on the road until victory.

These savage measures do not determine the fate of the war: the bombardment of innocent, unarmed civilians is but proof of the enemy's weakness and cowardice. The war is decided on the battlefield, as our forces have done on the Abadan front, and as our valiant fighters are now doing in downing planes and sinking gunboats, inflicting heavy material losses on the ostracized enemy.

As for developments in the region, U.S. imperialism has granted the Saudi regime AWACS planes and spare parts and equipment for the sophisticated F-16 fighter planes at a cost of $8.5 billion -- but under the supervision of U.S. experts as stipulated by the United States. In light of the recent Saudi stands in supporting the Egyptian regime and proposing the new Camp David plan, and its implicit recognition of the Zionist entity, and in light of the statements by (?Reagan) and then the statements by the Saudi information minister that these planes will not pose a threat to Israel, imperialism's aim in selling this huge package becomes clear to us, particularly as the planes are located 241 km from the Jordanian border to monitor activity in the northern Gulf. Is not the Islamic Republic of Iran the only enemy of U.S. imperialism in the region?

The United States wants to strengthen Saudi Arabia's role in OPEC to preserve its economic interests and is seeking to establish military bases in Saudi Arabia so as to prevent a possible attack on the oil wells and in order to build a powerful air defense network. The fact is that the AWACS planes are part of the Rapid Deployment Forces.

In Egypt the new rulers are bolstering their relations with imperialism and the Zionist entity so as to impose a state of oppression and terrorism on the Muslim people and their free supporters. In implementation of imperialism's schemes, they banned the broadcasting of religious programs on radio and television. Instead, they sent a delegation to the occupied territories to conclude a cultural agreement with the Zionist entity.

The revolutionary Islamic tide is rising and is tightening the grip on stooges, heralding a happy Muslim society and a just, divine government, particularly as these days are the days of blood and martyrdom -- Muharram and 'Ashura signal victory and happiness. Muharram is the month of great uprisings and victories. Oh (?youth) of Muharram, Oh [word indistinct] of 'Ashura, Oh supporters of Hoseyn, Oh sons of Karbala': More struggle against the Yazid of this age, his executioners and agents! More struggle for the cause of Islam and the cause of Hoseyn, may peace be upon him!

May God grant you success and make your footsteps firm. Peace and God's mercy be upon you. [chants of "God is great"]

BRIGHT STAR MANEUVERS, PARTICIPANTS SCORED

GF082015 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The American star shines on the American regimes in our Muslim world and revives them following the terrifying silence that prevailed in the wake of As-Sadat's assassination by the Egyptian people. Ever since the assassination of that American broker, the shaky regimes have been living in great and constant fear -- fear that entails many possibilities. As-Sadat's death in that heroic manner has prompted his comrades like Siad Barre, Numayri, Qabus and Saddam Husayn to take all possibilities into consideration. The most likely of these is assassination attempts at any moment and in any place, or alternatively, falling into an abyss as a result of a mass uprising that draws its strength and determination from Islam.

As a result of this despair that spread like an epidemic among the puppet regimes, the U.S. Government decided to carry out any action that spares its stooges the specter of fear and defeat and raises their morale, which collapsed following As-Sadat's fall. It instructed U.S. technology to plan a joint exercise over a vast area of Muslim territory -- an exercise that will be the focus of the attention of all peoples of the area without exception.

These exercises -- codenamed Bright Star -- will be held on Egyptian, Sudanese, Somali and Omani territory with the participation of a huge U.S. force that the Pentagon claimed does not exceed 6,000 soldiers. However, the size of the exercise indicates that the number of U.S. soldiers is bound to be greater. The operation will be commanded by (Tom Stron), the commander of the Rapid Deployment Forces [RDF] formed in the wake of the Islamic revolution's triumph during U.S. President Carter's administration with the aim of rapidly intervening in emergency cases such as that experienced by the former U.S. stooge, the buried shah. Ever since then U.S. governments have been thinking of ways to enable them to respond to what takes place in their colonies. The RDF was formed and manned with elite elements and equipped with the most sophisticated military hardware.

These exercises, which will begin tomorrow, are the next step in the RDF's program. The objectives are seen clearly on the map: Egypt and Sudan, which have experienced a revolutionary Islamic upsurge following As-Sadat's assassination, will play a major role in these exercises. Forces from these two countries will participate alongside U.S. forces in land and sea operations. Why did the U.S. Government choose these two countries to play a major role in the joint exercises? Is there an external threat to them that makes the United States take the trouble of carrying out these exercises?

The fact is that the threat to the Egyptian and Sudanese regimes is not external. There will be no external threat to these two regimes so long as Mubarak and Numayri lead them. The threat comes from within these two countries; it exists in the hearts of the Egyptian and Sudanese people that have awakened from their slumber, in the throats that cried out for Islam in Asyut, Cairo, Omdurman and Khartoum. This is the real threat to the two shaky regimes -- a threat that indicates that it is high time that Numayri and Husni Mubarak joined their lifelong companion Anwar as-Sadat.

Alongside Numayri and Mubarak, Siad Barre will welcome with open arms part of the forces that will participate in the exercises. The objective is the Horn of Africa and black Africa. The road to these two strategic areas passes across the Somali bridge. It is not difficult for the RDF to intervene anywhere in these two important areas once it obtains a transit permit from the tyrant of Somalia, Siad Barre.

In this context, the U.S. Government has not forgotten the importance of the Gulf waters. Here lie the oilfields, the red signal being raised by the rising Islamic revolution, and Saddam's war of aggression. All this points to the importance of Gulf oil and the threat to this wealth, the importance of erecting barriers in the way of the Islamic revolution and its threats to U.S. interests in the region, the importance of supporting Saddam's regime, the threat of the Islamic Republic's triumph in this war and its foiling of U.S. calculations.

As part of these calculations the United States sensed that its influence in the area is insufficient to decide the situation. Hence the need for the RDF to hasten the abortion of any Islamic revolution to stave any threats to the present regimes. The U.S. Government also had to fill the vacuum left by the fall of the buried shah and the collapse of regimes like that in Baghdad. The U.S. Government showed its interest in the Gulf region by inviting a Gulf country to join in its strategic exercises and by dispatching 1,800 marines to carry out a rapid landing operation on Omani shores.

These exercises take place 1 day prior to the convening of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] conference and a few weeks prior to the convening of the Arab summit conference in Fes. The question is: What will the conferees say about the terrible U.S. plan? What will the GCC say about the participation of one of its prominent members in these exercises? What will the Arab summit say about the conspiracy, whose target is Muslim Arab territory? What will they say to Numayri, Siad Barre and Husni Mubarak if they should attend the conference? Puzzling questions -- and they will remain puzzling questions to be asked in the lobbies of the conferences and in the meetings, because everyone knows the answer, and the majority is satisfied and content.

SHARI'ATMADARI DENIES REPORT ON INTENT TO LEAVE

NC080831 Paris AFP in English 0822 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Text] Tehran, 8 Nov (AFP) -- The office of senior Ayatollah Kazem Shari'atmadari today denied a report in the London SUNDAY TIMES that he last week applied for a passport in order to leave Iran.

Questioned by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by phone, the office added that he was this morning taking part in a lamentations ceremony in the holy city of Qom in central Iran.

(According to the report, Ayatollah Shari'atmadari wanted to leave Iran in protest at the wave of executions and arrests.)

The office called the kind of report carried by the SUNDAY TIMES "unfounded rumours."

(The report also said Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, who would be 83 next Thursday, was considering retiring from active politics before the end of the year.)

Clandestine on Denial

GF091001 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 9 Nov 81

[Text] Please listen to a report I have just now received. Under pressure and threats by the regime in Tehran the office of Ayatollah Kazem Shari'atmadari in Qom has contacted the AFP office in Tehran and has denied the report on his eminence's decision to leave Iran.

Ayatollah Shari'atmadari, who is under heavy guard and is controlled by the Tehran regime, was supposed to participate in the 'Ashura mourning ceremonies in Qom together with other clergymen. The Voice of Iran correspondent today reported that the news of Ayatollah Shari'atmadari's possible departure from Iran has created excitement among his followers, particularly the Azarbayjanis, and has caused authorities of the Tehran regime to worry. The report on Ayatollah Shari'atmadari's decision to leave was denied because of government persuasion and pressure and in order to calm his supporters.

ANNIVERSARY OF HOSEYN'S DEATH COMMEMORATED

NC071157 Paris AFP in English 1128 GMT 7 Nov 81

[Excerpt] 7 Nov (AFP) -- Several million Iranians marched in black-bannered parades through towns and villages across the country today to mark the anniversary of the murder 13 centuries ago of Hoseyn, grandson of the prophet Muhammad and leading figure in the Shi'ite faith.

Men led the 'Ashura anniversary processions, flagellating themselves with iron chains, to the monotonous beat of drums and chants of "Allah is the most great, (Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeyni is our leader". Behind came male children, followed by their mothers and sisters.

In Tehran, where the several hundred thousand in the processions came mainly from the poor quarters of the capital, anti-American slogans mingled with the religious fervour, along with slogans condemning ousted President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

One religious speaker, Mohammad Taqi Falsafi, told crowds in Tehran that the "Moslem Iranian people" defended the sentences of the Islamic courts and "demanded the execution of the corrupt".

The crowd chanted "Death to America Death to France", as the orator called on foreign journalists "at least to recognize this reality".

'HYPOCRITES' KILL 4 REVOLUTION GUARDS 5 NOV

LD062052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Excerpts] PARS reports that at 1830 yesterday the criminal hypocrites killed four revolution guards, protectors of the Koran, on the eve of Huseyn's Tasu'a [the anniversary of Hoseyn's martyrdom]. The same report says that the criminal hypocrites also killed a Hezbollahi tradesman in Mashhad's (?Zed) Square.

FIGHTING CONTINUES BETWEEN GUARDS, KURDISH REBELS

Battles in Marivan

JN072028 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1240 GMT 7 Nov 81

[Text] Marivan -- Dear brothers and sisters: As you know, the guards, mercenaries and antipeople army of the reactionary Khomeyni regime began a large-scale aggression against the Marivan region 45 days ago. This region's villages were shelled by the enemy artillery every day, inflicting massive losses on the inhabitants' property. This prompted the heroic peshmerga of the Iranian Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP] in Marivan to confront the enemy valiantly in the heights of (Kar Sirr) during the past 45 days.

Meanwhile, (Shaghu) peshmerga confronted and fought the army, guards and mercenaries. news received from Marivan says that Marivan local committee peshmerga, in cooperation with a group of (Shaghu) peshmerga and the martyr (Firmi) peshmerga force, which belongs to the Sharif Zadeh forces, drew up an organized plan to confront the enemy. They launched an attack on the positions of the army and guards near [name indistinct] and another attack on the positions of the guards and mercenaries in (Pataza) village.

The heroic KDP peshmerga dealt painful blows to the enemy in a 2-hour clash, after which the enemy was forced to abandon its positions. These positions were seized by the peshmerga while the enemy, sustaining heavy losses, fled to (Maran) position. The peshmerga then attacked this position and forced the enemy to flee to (Krawa). The peshmerga seized 2 enemy positions and killed 35 guards and mercenaries. All the two positions' materiel and ammunition fell into the hands of the peshmerga.

On 4 November 1981, the enemy shelled these two positions with artillery and forced the peshmerga to abandon them. However, in this operation the peshmerga seized 1 (KG) rifle, 5 ammunition crates for (KG) rifles, 1 long (Brno) rifle, 2 Kalashnikovs with 3 magazines, 1,300 Kalashnikov rounds and 1 77-mm shell. The peshmerga set fire to the materiel they could not carry away for lack of transport means. In addition to killing 35 enemy troops, 1 enemy element called Jalal Babani from [name indistinct] village was taken captive by the peshmerga. Regrettably, two peshmerga were martyred. They are immortal brother strugglers 'Abd al-Khaliq Pirani and Rahman Piri. Brother 'Abd al-Khaliq was the first of the Marivan forces peshmerga to join the party peshmerga. One of the Sharif Zadeh peshmerga was slightly wounded.

We thank Sharif Zadeh, Marivan and (Shaghu) forces. We also extend our condolences to the families of martyrs 'Abd al-Khaliq and Rahman and to all peshmerga and honorable inhabitants of the region. Be assured that the peshmerga will proceed along the path of martyrs and take revenge.

Clash in Bukan

LD071740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Nov 81

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the operational headquarters for the northwestern region of the country has announced the following:

A clash which began at 1600 yesterday in the town of Bukan between the combatants of Islam and counterrevolutionary members of the [Kurdish] Democratic Party and Komeleh, revealed the true faces of the assailants to the oppressed people of Kordestan; they opened fire on and slaughtered innocent men, women and children in Bukan's inns, streets, public baths, bakeries and other public places.

Our courageous guards and military brothers, gendarmerie, mobilization forces and police personnel left tens of infidel members of the Democratic Party and Komeleh dead or wounded and the bodies of most of them were left in streets. At present, the combatants of Islam have the town in their control. They surround the town and all the roads into and out of the town are under surveillance. Seventy-four of Islam's combatants were killed or wounded.

The counterrevolutionaries think that they are able to continue their futile efforts. The actions of the brave people and the combatants on the scene reveal how wrong they are. The combatants of Islam have decided to restore order and security on all internal fronts and eventually to free Jerusalem and liberate the world's oppressed and deprived people.

Death Toll

LD071906 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1830 GMT 7 Nov 81

[Text] According to Central News Unit reports, yesterday's attack by counterrevolutionary elements of the Democratic Party and Komeleh on the town of Bukan was foiled by Islam's guards. In this attack, only seven of Islam's heroes were martyred or wounded. This figure was mistakenly read in the 1630 GMT newscast as 74 combatants of Islam were killed or wounded, and is hereby corrected.

Bukan 'Under Control'

LD081710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Text] PARS reports that Bukan is under the control of the forces of Islam, following the discovery and neutralization of the counterrevolution's plot to create chaos there. Operations to cleanse Bukan of the filthy presence of the counterrevolutionaries are continuing. So far, one [words indistinct], one supply depot and large quantities of documents and equipment have fallen into the hands of the forces of Islam.

Contacted this morning, the Public Relations Office of the [word indistinct] northwestern headquarters stated that seven people were martyred or wounded during yesterday's clashes in Bukan.

7 Nov Clash

LD081730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, two brother guards, (Heydar Heydarzadeh) and Mohammad Reza (Safirallah), were martyred by counterrevolutionaries during a clash yesterday near the village of (Heshtian). This occurred while the Muslim and struggling people of Urumiyeh, as well as other strata of the martyr-nurturing nation of Iran, were commemorating the self-sacrifice and bravery of Imam Hoseyn.

During the clash, more than 10 counterrevolutionaries were killed and a number of others were wounded and captured. The others were forced to flee in the face of the severe blows of the guards.

90 ARRESTED, 4 KILLED IN MASHHAD OPERATION

LD082120 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Nov 81

[Text] During the past week, eight safe houses operating under the cover of various firms have been uncovered in Mashhad. The Central News Unit reports that the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced that more than 90 of the American hireling elements associated with the united counterrevolutionary minigroups, as well as several of the ringleaders who provided financial aid for the hypocrites organization, were arrested. The report also says that four hypocrites were killed in armed clashes with corpsmen and that a large amount of homemade and time bombs, Colt handguns, G-3 rifles and various types of Molotov cocktails and other homemade explosive devices were seized.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 690

LD061832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Communique 690 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Tasu'a is here, the blood of bravery and martyrdom boiled in the body of Hoseyn, may peace be upon his soul's army, and once again they swore allegiance with Hoseyn to rise and wipe out the stain of Yazid [the caliph who martyred Hoseyn] and his followers from the world. Some of their operations and the situation at the war fronts during the past 24 hours are hereby brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

Exchange of fire continued in the country's western operational regions of Gilan-e Gharb, Meymak and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. The Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran's ceaseless artillery fire on the Meymak front dealt heavy blows to the enemy and made any reaction from the enemy impossible; three enemy vehicles were destroyed and a number of Saddamists were killed. Enemy infiltration attempts at the Sumar front were foiled by the vigilance and selflessness of the gendarmerie personnel of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the enemy was forced to retreat after suffering a large number of casualties and substaining considerable damage. On the Dar Ballut front, two mortar launchers, one 106-mm rifle and two ammunition depots belonging to the enemy were destroyed and (?13) Iraqi soldiers were killed as a result of the gendarmerie heroes' fire. Exchange of fire continued on the Abadan front during the past 24 hours. As a result of our selfless military personnel's fire, 5 trenches, 2 heavy-weapon positions, 4 observation posts, 2 ammunition dumps and 2 enemy vehicles were destroyed; more than 28 of Saddam's invading forces were either killed or injured.

To the west of Dezful, the selfless personnel of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran were able to inflict heavy casualties and damage on the enemy after a series of reconnaissance operations. On the Ahvaz front, out brave combatants opened fire on an enemy military column, destroying a vehicle and killing its passengers.

On the Khuninshahr front, the brave combatants of the navy destroyed two trenches and an observation post and killed a number of enemy forces. In addition, an operation by several Iraqi divers who intended to penetrate our front lines was foiled. One of the enemy divers was killed.

The brave gendarmerie combatants on the Abadan front fired on enemy traffic on the Al-Faw-Basra road, destroying an ammunition depot belonging to Saddam's army and killing a number of Iraqi military personnel. Yesterday the cities of Abadan and Susangerd once again came under heavy fire from the invading army. This cowardly act resulted in the martyrdom of 2 people and 12 Abadani citizens were wounded.